Acquisition of MiG 29 by Bangladesh

762. SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Bangladesh is intending to buy a squadron of MiG-29s; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Bangladesh Air Force is equipped with one Squadron of Mig-29 aircraft. There are no further inputs on the issue of procurement of more Mig-29 aircraft by the Government of Bangladesh.

Court martialled Army Officer in Tehelka scandal

†763. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Army Officer has been convicted and penalised by general court martial in Tehelka scandal;

(b) if so, the name of the officer and the charges framed against him; and

(c) the charges found correct out of them by the court?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) One Col. Anil Sahagal who has been convicted and penalised was tried for five charges under the Army Act, sections, 69, 45 and 63. The first and second charges related to accepting for himself gratification other than legal remuneration, as a motive for doing an official act in the exercise of his offical functions, contrary to Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The third charge related to behaving in a manner unbecoming of his position and the character expected of him. The fourth charge related to committing an act prejudicial to good order and military discipline, in that he improperly handed an official document and the fifth charge related to an act prejudicial to good order and military discipline, in that he improperly met representatives of a fictitious firm. Out of these, all charges except the fourth charge, were found correct by the General Court Martial.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.